

# THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

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## Oil Products prices

Department of Economic Affairs,  
Commerce and Industry

The Ministry of Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs announces the retail prices for the following oil products as per August 14, 2013

Gasoline unleaded-premium	239.4 cent p/ltr. (+10.5 cent)
Gasoil LS	204.2 cent p/ltr. (+ 6.7 cent)
Kerosine	197.0 cent p/ltr. (+ 6.8 cent)

In the new prices the BBO is already included.

## Aruba's PM Eman send out condolences to the Dutch Royal Family



His Majesty King Willem Alexander during the early hours of the yesterday morning notified the government of Aruba of the passing of his brother, His Royal Highness Prins Friso.

Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman expressed his deepest sympathy

For some time the entire world had been following the developments surrounding Prins Friso's health after he suffered an accident one year ago. Despite the major trauma he suffered, according to Prime Minister Eman, we still had hope that he would

recover. However, this morning the sad news came that Friso has died.

According to Eman, for the royal family this is a very sad moment. Someone so young and full of life leaving a wife and two young children gives us much grief. For Princes Mabel, his beloved wife, this is a very difficult time...the loss of your spouse. For Princes Beatrix it means the loss of a dear son.

As government we stand by them and bear with them during this season of bereavement. This is a family that has always inspired our community to unite an exemplary family who today is suffering such a great loss, said Prime Minister Eman.

The Prime Minister remarked, "...in the name of the government of Aruba and the people of Aruba, we wish the Royal family lots of strength during these difficult moments. May God take Prins Friso into His Kingdom"

## Dutch prince Friso to be buried near mother's castle

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Dutch Prince Friso is to be buried near his mother's castle on Friday, days after he died from injuries sustained in a 2012 skiing accident, the palace said.

"His royal highness prince Friso's burial will take place on Friday afternoon on August 16 at a private ceremony in Lage Vuursche," a statement said on Tuesday.

King Willem-Alexander's brother Friso died on Monday, aged 44, around 18 months after he was left brain-damaged and comatose by an avalanche while skiing in Austria.

Friso will be buried at the Stulpkerk church in Lage Vuursche, around 30 kilometres (20 miles) southeast of Amsterdam, the palace said.

The tiny hamlet is where his mother Princess Beatrix, who abdicated as queen in April, has a castle where she intends to spend her retirement.

There had been speculation that Friso might be buried at the Nieuwe Kerk in Delft, outside The Hague, where most members of the



The cemetery by the Stulpkerk church

royal House of Orange are laid to rest, or at the Oude Kerk in the same town, where he was married.

Friso in 2004 married Mabel Wisse Smit, giving up his claim to the throne as well as his Royal House position after it emerged that his future wife had withheld details of her previous relationship with a Dutch drug baron.

As a result, Friso, who was fourth in line to the throne, was excluded from the line of succession.

Friso was injured while

skiing in the Austrian Alps in February, 2012.

He was an experienced skier but nevertheless ventured off-piste with a friend while the avalanche risk warning was at four on a scale of one to five.

His friend was unhurt, but Friso spent around 20 minutes under the snow before rescuers pulled him out.

Friso was in July transferred from a hospital in London, where he lived, to the residence of his mother, former queen Beatrix, in The Hague.

He is survived by his wife Mabel and their two daughters, Luana, 8, and Zaria, 7.

A memorial ceremony will be held for Friso later in the year, the palace said.



**Economic issues dominate this year's elections and the debate**  
(see pg 2)

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**OP/ED:**

## Economic issues dominate this year's elections and the debate



**KvK Director Leo Maduro**

The presidential, senatorial and congressional elections in the U.S. last year generated great controversy on a number of topics, some of them utterly frivolous, which is a long-standing ploy to distract from the big question: the state of the economy.

In these trying times, the slow, perhaps imperceptible recovery from the global financial meltdown of 2008-2009, has local financial pundits concerned, as well as our government's increasing deficit and debt. The International Monetary Fund recently released a rather ambiguous, equivocal statement on Aruba, which could be used by any side in the upcoming elections to support their points of view, or claims of irresponsible policies by those in power.

It was announced that a debate will be conducted by the Aruba Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KvK) in collaboration with the Aruba Trade and Industry Association (ATIA) on Tuesday evening, August 27 in the Westin Resort ballroom. The participants are Prime Minister Mike Eman, leader of the AVP party, which now controls Aruba's 21-seat parliament

with a distinct majority. Evelyn Wever-Croes, head of MEP and Andin Bikker, of PDR, will be the other two at the podiums, as their parties also hold seats in parliament.

The moderator and questions screened by a committee of combined KvK and ATIA experts will confine the discussion to Aruba's economic situation. It was initially announced the debate was going to be in English, as this "is the language of doing business internationally," asserted KvK Director Leo Maduro. Indeed, many of the news briefs posted to their webpage are in English, and those working at the KvK are all fluent.

KvK annual events, their business dinner and plaza, have always been conducted in English. Mr. Maduro informed THE MORNING NEWS that initial preparation for the debate, including a Powerpoint presentation outlining the exact economic issues of concern and the questions the candidates should answer, had already been drafted by the time of the announcement. However, because the event would be televised by Channel 13, TeleAruba, there was a great hue and cry that the average Aruban voter would likely not fully understand the proceedings, and so the language of the debate will be Papiamentu. This is a disappointment for Aruba's English-speaking community, many of which have quite an investment in Aruba, not only as a retirement

home, but in local businesses. However, most of these people are not voters; it is only fair that the average island voter, of which, unfortunately an increasing number are not fluent in English, be able to fully understand the candidates' responses.

The KvK does promise to post the original English outline of financial issues on their website: <http://www.arubachamber.com>.

Presently, there are already articles in English that address the economic issues as part of their online newsletter. The KvK asks "How much impact may weak public finance have on an economy as a whole? In what ways would the financial problems visible at present affect the economy?"

According to the KvK, these "are the questions many managers in the private sector of Aruba may pose themselves these days. Their fear is that, while Aruba's economy is doing relatively well in general terms, government's financial struggles may have far reaching consequences."

The IMF Executive Board Commentary released on August 9, was encouraging about Aruba's recovery in regard to our tourism industry, which has shown steady growth since 2009. The report begins with this evaluation:

"Aruba is a highly open economy with a long history of macroeconomic stability. Over eighty percent of the economy depends directly or indirectly on tourism, making Aruba the second highest tourism-dependent country in the world. The long-standing fixed exchange rate against the US Dollar, supported by

conservative fiscal, credit and prudential policies, has provided macroeconomic stability by maintaining low inflation over the years and keeping imbalances checked, until recent shocks."

Specifically, those "major shocks" were the global financial crisis of 2008, and of course, the Valero Refinery closing its doors, seemingly permanently, in 2012. "Although tourism rebounded quickly partly thanks to aggressive market diversification efforts, real GDP took a second dip in 2012 by close to 1 1/4 percent after increasing by 3 3/4 percent in 2011. Output remains 12 percent below its pre-crisis level, with recovery slower than others in the Caribbean region," states the IMF Executive Board.

"The external sector has held up well through these shocks," it continues. "The non-oil current account (CA) balance, which mostly reflects developments in the tourism sector, has improved since mid-2000, reaching a

balanced position in 2012. The overall CA balance, however, after being in surplus for years, showed volatilities in recent years reflecting oil sector developments. In 2012, it recorded a surplus of 5 percent of GDP."

However, "The fiscal position worsened significantly in recent years. Preliminary data suggests that the overall fiscal balance recorded a deficit of 8 1/2 percent in 2012. Notwithstanding measures taken in the pension and health sectors and efforts to collect tax arrears, the deficit widened sharply from pre-crisis years," points out the report. "In 2013, real output is projected to grow by 1 1/4 percent. Robust tourism growth and some pick-up in consumption from projected deflation will support the subdued near-term recovery. A two percent deflation is projected in 2013 reflecting large utility price reductions in late 2012, and declining food and energy prices.

**Continued on pg 3**

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## Economic issues dominate this year's elections and the debate

Continued from pg 2

The CA balance is projected to record a deficit of 9½ percent of GDP in 2013, due to the loss of oil exports."

The IMF conclusions reflect the concerns of local economic observers, citing "a recession that is deeper than in most other Caribbean countries. Although tourism, the mainstay of Aruban economy, rebounded quickly, Valero's shutdown has left harder-to-fill gaps in investment and non-tourism exports, with real GDP projected to reach its pre-crisis level only in 2018."

"Downside risks dominate in the near-term, but medium-term prospects could be brighter. With a high dependence on tourism and oil imports, Aruba faces downside risks from renewed weaknesses in the global economy and higher oil prices. In the medium-term, there are up-sides from resumption of oil refining by Valero, and large scale investment in renewable energy." The complete report can be viewed online here: <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2013/pr13303.htm>

It is important to note that the brighter, medium-term prospects are dependent on resumption of oil refining by Valero. Realistically, is this something islanders should depend upon? Most informed financial leaders are skeptical of such an outcome. This very crucial aspect of the report cannot be taken lightly or dismissed.

The KvK is also looking at government debt obligations, and how they are undermining their fiscal position. Granted, a deficit was inherited from the prior administration, "but that excuse only works for about a year,"

stated Mr. Maduro. "By then steps should have been taken and a viable plan put in place to reduce the deficit and any future debts incurred."

According to the KvK "The years 2010, 2011 and 2012 presented a picture of growing budget deficits, caused by increasing expenditure and stagnant revenue, the latter also fueled by slashing the turnover tax from 3% to 1.5%, which was not compensated by significant economic growth. These deficits were financed primarily by recurring to the local and foreign market, issuing government bonds."

By end 2012, Aruba's public debt burden – according to the Central Bank of Aruba – is set at Afl. 3.062 billion (US\$ 1.7 billion), which represents about 67% of GDP. At the start of the current government's term, debt was at approximately Afl. 2.226 billion, at that time 49.8% of GDP. Without a drastic turnaround in financial policy, budget deficits may further cause public debt/GDP ratio to climb past the 70% mark, on its way to 80%. In this situation, cutting expenses and increasing revenue may seem appropriate, both alternatives being unattractive. Cutting costs too abruptly, may lead to great loss of purchasing power, leading to less consumption, affecting retail and services. Revenue increase for government will also come at a cost for businesses and individual citizens, as they have to pay these tax increases."

"First and foremost," continues the KvK report, "it may seem logical that government should attack those items that weigh more on its

budget. This would undoubtedly be the personnel related items, which in 2012 totaled Afl. 684 million, compared to Afl. 602 million in 2010. A solid 13.6% increase in only two years. Together with other expenses related to the apparatus (goods and services), these total apparatus related costs represented in 2012 a total of Afl. 927 million, more than Total Tax Revenue (Afl. 915 million) for the same year. On its turn, tax revenue represents about 90% of total revenue. As it will be very difficult to dodge other financial commitments, such as interest payments and government's contribution to the general healthcare scheme (AZV), cutting back on personnel expenses, either through decreasing the number of personnel, or by slashing salaries across the board, seems to become unavoidable. An attempt to weather out the situation, based on attrition only, will not reel in enough result to cure the problem."

The KvK report concludes "in light of the considerable increase of expenditure to be expected in the coming years, suddenly the recent discussion about a 'balanced budget' does not seem to be the first priority anymore. The most important issue at this time seems to be how to prevent government budget deficit from mushrooming to an even higher level, thus leading to a completely unsustainable financial situation. From a deficit of close to Afl. 400 million on a Afl. 1.4 billion budget, we may face a situation where this deficit may become over Afl. 500 million, with a revenue side hardly growing. Unless...

government recurs to hefty taxation in order to beef up revenue. It becomes imperative to know what road this country needs to go in the upcoming years, as further taxation will mean cutting back profits, and subsequently investments. As these increases will be passed on to the customer, this will fuel inflation on its turn, and add to the loss of competitiveness of Aruba's economy. It is about time to look for other alternatives, like the limitation of benefits of healthcare and pension schemes, in order to have social security and healthcare systems that are more according to the carrying capacity of our economy, as we cannot go on adding more premiums to the already high employers' contributions. A cold hard look should also be taken at our productivity and fiscal regime, in order to increase Aruba's attractiveness for investors, and to determine a more feasible road to economic growth, and hence more sustainable public finance."

It is difficult to imagine the average retiree from the private sector living on the maximum social security benefit, which barely covers utilities and food, would accept any sort of cut. Basically, we can assume they are looking more at the retirement benefits of civil workers, which are far more substantial, but it is also doubtful that these voters would take well to having their benefits reduced. It is a conundrum, not unlike the issues presented during last year's U.S. presidential elections.

It can't help be noticed that Aruba is currently facing a

very similar debate regarding economic issues as well as the responses. Many of the opposing parties are complaining, but do they have viable, practical plans, aside from raising taxes? Granted, there are public projects proposed at present that Aruba would not miss in the slightest, nor the debt they would incur. We must admit, during the last four years, a number of fine programs have been instigated by the current administration, important to the social and technological development of Aruba, and they have demonstrated a vision and goal for the island. We laud this vision in improving the infrastructure; not only is this an asset to its tourism product, but is also beneficial to permanent residents. However, at this point, the expense incurred and how vital new projects are to everyday life should be closely examined and analyzed with more discretion.

Again, Aruba has not quite the pantheon of issues the U.S. faced in the last elections, many of them frivolously manufactured to distract from the key problem for which no one seems to have a real answer: the fiscal deficit and debt. Aruba is in a similar situation, and similarly, we are not hearing any definitive solutions, so far, just the vague "we have a plan."

Hopefully, the upcoming debate will clear the air on this pressing situation, giving voters an unmistakable reason to confidently choose a candidate, other than outdated party loyalties or ties of friendship and family.

By Rosalie Klein



## An authentic taste of the Caribbean cuisine now at *Jamaica Mi Irie*



**Curried Goat and Jamaican Root Wine**

The word "irie" has a plethora of meanings in Jamaican culture, from pure nirvana to feeling well satisfied, and patrons

will certainly feel at least the latter after a visit to Aruba's only authentic Jamaican restaurant, the newly opened Jamaica Mi Irie in San Nicolas.

The kitchen is the beloved effort of well known island chef, Jeffrey Roy Elliott, the master in the kitchen of Elliott's Italian restaurant adjacent to Costa Linda. Jeffrey has gone back to his Jamaican roots for this enthu-



**Jeffrey Elliott and wife Daisy**

sia effort with his wife Daisy, who loves being the happy hostess. The regular menu features the traditional cuisine such as Jerk Chicken, Fried Chicken, Beef oxtail, Stewed Pork, Jerk Pork, Fried Fish plus a house specialty, Curried Goat. These are regular items, but Jeffrey prefers to pepper his menu with various "Specials of the Day" made from what is fresh and seasonal.

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**Jerk Chicken with Rice & Peas**

This very cute, cozy place is open for lunch and dinner daily, except Sundays and Mondays, from 11:00 AM until 10:00 PM. It is located directly across from the BSL Laundry on Captain Rodgerstraat, which runs along the refinery wall parallel to the San Nicolas main street.

## Westin Art Gallery establishes a semi-annual event with "Colors of Aruba II"



**Eduardo Valbuena, Susan Ruiter Trina Stevenson**

Located adjacent to the main lobby of the Westin Aruba Resort, the resort's elegant art gallery hosts some of the most attractive art collections conveniently located for perusal by island visitors. Their shows embrace all of the art community, and all styles of work. On Saturday, August 10, a new, two-month, photography exhibit opened sponsored by Aruba Experience Magazine, titled "Colors

of Aruba II."

The stated purpose of this current collection is "to reveal to island visitors aspects of Aruba that is beyond the beaches and resorts," stated one of the artists on display, Susan Ruiter, who is also editor and publisher of the magazine. Her work, along with that of her colleague Trina Stevenson, and galleries co-curator, Eduardo Valbuena, comprises this exhibit.



**Susan Ruiter**

This vibrantly-hued collection of photographs definitely captures the intense tropical colors that are found around the island, in flowers, cactus, and the rainbow of colors Arubans choose to paint their houses. It is meant to convey the cultural and environmental influences that present a more realistic por-

trait of island life, as opposed to the surroundings of the resort areas.

The artists expressed the hope that it will open a window to the native beauty and colors of Aruba to island visitors, inviting them to stop by the gallery to enjoy and absorb the experience.

Each artist has also revealed their distinct vision and viewpoint, as the collection is comprised of a very few landscapes, but is much more focused on the minutiae of the environment. Most works have zeroed in on de-



**"Saved by a Flower" (Eduardo Valbuena)**

tails that many may miss. This is, to a great degree, the essence of a photographer's art, their ability to see what the ordinary observer does not see, and to capture it a most unique fashion.

The Westin Art Gallery is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A gallery representative is present every Tuesday and Saturday afternoon to facilitate sales of any pieces, and they can also be reached at telephone numbers 588 2267 / 740-2678 or 742-1987.

By Rosalie Klein

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## Crunchy Manchego Cheese and Chorizo Patty: An irresistible combination! Burger King introduces its Jungle Whopper



Burger King, the largest hamburger restaurant on the island is once again indulging their clients, this time with

the introduction of their newest product: The Jungle-Whopper sandwich. Prepared with Manchego Cheese and

Chorizo patty, this sandwich offers an irresistible flavor together with the quality ingredients the regular whopper is

known for, such as fresh lettuce, tomatoes and the fire grilled beef.

The Jungle Whopper is the preferred option internationally among hamburger lovers and the fact that Manchego Cheese and Chorizo was added to not any other sandwich, but to the whopper, makes it much more interesting.

The Jungle Whopper sandwich is offered in the same way as all the other sandwiches on Burger King's menu: "Have it Your Way",

where clients can customize their sandwich by adding or removing their preferred ingredients.

For more information on the Jungle Whopper sandwich please visit Burger King Aruba on Facebook.

Burger King invites the whole community of Aruba to stop by at any of the three restaurants on the island, Burger King San Nicolas, Burger King Oranjestad or Burger King Arawak Gardens and enjoy the Jungle Whopper sandwich.

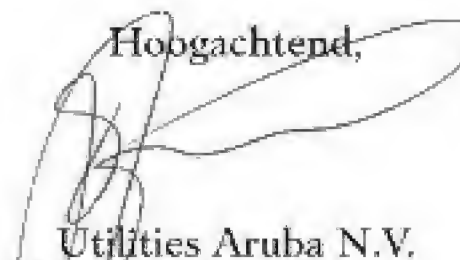


Met inachtneming van artikel 21 roep ik hierbij een Algemene Vergadering van Aandeelhouders bijeen ten kantore van Utilities Aruba N.V. op maandag 19 augustus 2013 om 09:00 uur.

De agenda van deze vergadering luidt als volgt:

1. Opening.
2. Goedkeuring notulen AVA van 13 mei 2013.
3. Benoeming commissaris C. Odor.
4. Begroting 2014.
5. Rondvraag.
6. Sluiting.

Nadere informatie omtrent de agenda ligt ter inzage ten kantore van Utilities Aruba N.V.

Hoogachtend,  
  
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Drs. Franklin Hoevertsz.  
Directeur.

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5:30 pm - 7:00 pm



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## Brazil confronts Kerry over alleged US spying

BRASÍLIA (AFP) - Brazil warned US Secretary of State John Kerry on Tuesday that failure to resolve the row over Washington's electronic spying could sow mistrust between the two countries.

Brazil was outraged by media reports of widespread US phone and Internet eavesdropping based on information leaked by fugitive intelligence contractor Edward Snowden.

Foreign Minister Antonio Patriota told reporters after talks with Kerry that revelations about the vast US global surveillance network posed a "new challenge in our bilateral relationship."

"If the implications of this challenge are not satisfactorily resolved, they run the risk of casting a shadow of mistrust over our work," he added.

"Practices which harm the sovereignty and relations of trust between states and violate the individual freedoms which our countries so cherish must be stopped."

Kerry, who is on his first trip to South America since he assumed his post in February, said: "Brazil is owed answers with respect to those questions and they will get them."

"We will have this dialogue with the view to make it certain that your government is in complete understanding and complete agreement with what it is that we must do provide security, not just for Americans, but for Brazilians and the people of the world," Kerry added.

US officials have defended the surveillance programs as entirely lawful measures that have helped foil dozens of terrorist attacks around the world.

Brazil, Latin America's economic powerhouse, has meanwhile sought to assert regional independence from

Washington.

Kerry arrived here late Monday from Colombia, where he also defended Washington's electronic espionage.

"I think it's very obvious to everybody that this is a dangerous world we're living in," Kerry told reporters in Bogota on Monday.

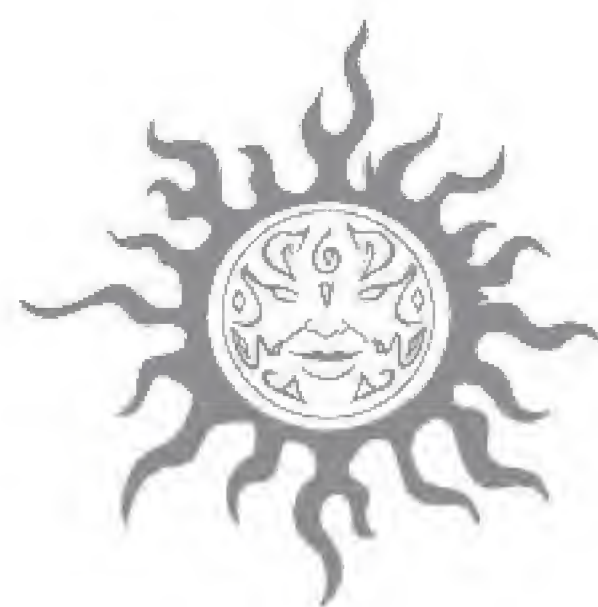
"We are necessarily engaged in a very complex effort to prevent terrorists from taking innocent lives in many different places."

Based on documents leaked by Snowden, the daily O Globo reported last month that Washington eavesdropped on Brazilians' phone calls and Internet communications.

### Nigeria loses \$1.2 billion to oil thieves in a month: official

LAGOS (AFP) - Nigeria, Africa's largest oil producer, lost about 1.2 billion dollars to oil thieves in a single month of the first quarter of 2013, an official statement said Tuesday.

"At average January-March prices of \$121 per barrel, this theft resulted in a loss of \$1.2bn to Nigeria in one month alone," President Goodluck Jonathan's special adviser on oil-rich Niger Delta, Kingsley Kuku, said in the statement. Official figures indicate that the trade in stolen oil led to a 17 percent fall in official oil sales in the first quarter of 2013, estimated at 400,000 barrels per day, it said. The International Energy Agency said last month that the theft of oil from pipelines in Nigeria had damaged infrastructure, and was one factor in a fall of output by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) of which Nigeria is a member.



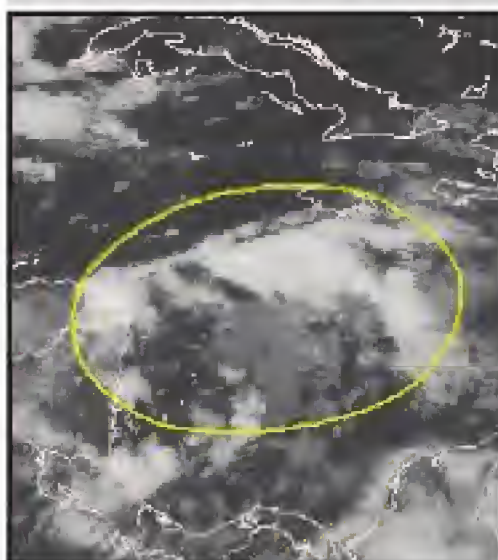
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## Hurricane forecasters watching tropical waves in the Caribbean, Atlantic



MIAMI -- The National Hurricane Center on Tuesday was keeping an eye on two tropical waves, one in the Caribbean Sea and the other in the Atlantic Ocean off of the African coast.

There is a "medium chance" that a tropical wave in the southwestern

Caribbean Sea could develop into a tropical storm or hurricane within the next five days, the National Hurricane Center said Tuesday.

As of 2 p.m., cloudiness and showers associated with the wave extended from Central America northeastward to near Jamaica.

"Upper-level winds are expected to become more favorable for development over the next couple of days while the disturbance moves toward the Yucatan Peninsula," the Hurricane Center said.

The system has a 20 percent, or "low," chance of developing into a storm during the next 48 hours; and a 30 percent, or "medium," chance of developing during the next five days, the Hurricane Cen-

ter said.

A second tropical wave was located near the west coast of Africa and was producing disorganized showers and thunderstorms.

"Upper-level winds are expected to be conducive for some development of this disturbance during the next few days until the wave enters a more stable environment by the weekend," the Hurricane Center.

The Hurricane Center said the system had a 10 percent chance of developing into a tropical storm over the next two days, and 20 percent chance in the next five days, while it moves westward and then west-northwestward at 10 mph.





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## International News

### Snowden spilled secrets to 'fearless' journalists

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US intelligence leaker Edward Snowden said in an interview released Tuesday he chose to divulge details of a vast US surveillance effort to journalists who reported "fearlessly" on controversial subjects.

Snowden, in the interview released by The New York Times, said he chose documentary filmmaker Laura Poitras and Guardian reporter Glenn Greenwald because they were not cowed by the US government.

"After 9/11, many of the most important news outlets in America abdicated their role as a check to power -- the journalistic responsibility to challenge the excesses of government -- for fear of being seen as unpatriotic and punished in the market during a period of heightened nationalism," Snowden was quoted as saying in an encrypted conversation with journalist Peter Maass for the Times Sunday magazine.

"Laura and Glenn are among the few who reported fearlessly on controversial topics throughout this period, even in the face of withering personal criticism, and resulted in Laura specifically

becoming targeted by the very programs involved in the recent disclosures."

Snowden, who was granted asylum in Russia after spending over five weeks in a Moscow airport transit zone, is said by his lawyers to now be at an undisclosed secret location.

The United States wants to put Snowden on trial for leaking details of vast American surveillance programs but Moscow has steadfastly refused to hand him over.

A former contractor, Snowden released details of secret National Security Agency programs aimed at thwarting terrorism which sweep up vast amounts of phone and Internet data.

Snowden said that when he met the two journalists in Hong Kong for a filmed interview, "I think they were annoyed that I was younger than they expected, and I was annoyed they had arrived too early, which complicated the initial verification."

Snowden added that he was surprised that Greenwald did not agree to his requests to encrypt all communications.

### Press group criticizes Venezuela for fining newspapers

MIAMI (AFP) - A regional press group on Tuesday accused Venezuela of using fines imposed on two newspapers as a way to silence criticism.

A judge at a court for the protection of children slapped large fines last week on El Nacional and Tal Cual for publishing a front page photograph in 2010 that showed bodies heaped in a Caracas morgue.

The photograph was used to illustrate reports on how dangerous the streets of the crime-ridden Venezuelan capital are.

But the judge, in a 2010 rul-

ing, said the images were "inappropriate" and represented a psychological danger to children who might see them.

The fine announced last week amounts to one percent of the newspapers' respective gross revenues for the year 2009.

The Inter-American Press Association, a Miami-based grouping of newspaper publishers from around the region, criticized the fines as an act of censorship.

Claudio Paolillo, head of IAPA's press freedoms committee, said it was part of a

### Russian doctor 'stole heroin from drug mule's stomach'

MOSCOW (AFP) - Russian police on Tuesday said they had arrested a Siberian surgeon on suspicion of stealing heroin that he had just extracted from the stomach of a drug mule.

The surgeon at a hospital in the small town of Bogotol east of Moscow was high on drugs when he was arrested, the police for the Siberian Krasnoyarsk region said in a statement on their website.

The surgeon carried out an operation to remove packages containing heroin from a man's stomach at the request of police, but the criminal investigative department later realised some of the drugs were missing.

"When they searched the surgeon, they found a package with five grams of heroin hidden in his clothing. At the moment of the detention, the doctor was in a state of narcotic intoxication."

In a police video, the surgeon declined to answer questions. He faces up to 15 years in prison for theft and possession of a large amount of drugs.

The police arrested the suspected drug carrier, a man from the ex-Soviet state of Tajikistan, when he fell ill on a train between the Siberian cities of Novosibirsk and Irkutsk, a regional transport police spokesman told Komso-molskaya Pravda daily.

The train stopped at the nearest station, the town of Bogotol, and police took the courier, who had slipped into a drug-related coma after the heroin leaked into his stomach, to have the packages surgically removed.

The surgeon involved had previously been convicted of drug possession, regional police spokesman Vladimir Yurchenko told the RIA Novosti news agency.

### 24 injured in Chile prison brawl, fire: official

SANTIAGO (AFP) - At least 24 inmates were injured in a brawl and fire Tuesday at a prison in central Chile, authorities said.

"They had injuries from burns and stabbings. None were serious and there were no deaths to lament," said Juan Carlos Manriquez, head of the prison guard service in the Valparaiso region.

He said a brawl broke out among inmates at the prison in Quillota, which houses an estimated 500 prisoners 80 kilometers (50 miles) north of Santiago.

During the fighting inmates set fire to their mattresses and hurled them outside their cells.

Another group of prisoners took advantage of the disturbances to riot in another part of the prison, Manriquez said.

In December 2010, 81 inmates were killed in a fire at the San Miguel prison in Santiago, the deadliest prison incident in Chilean history.

Also yesterday a truck loaded with gasoline exploded at a service station in Vina del Mar in central Chile, injuring at least three people, an official said.

### Canada suspends railroad's operations after disaster

OTTAWA (AFP) - A Canadian railway company at the heart of a deadly accident that flattened part of a Quebec town lost its operating permit Tuesday on grounds it lacks sufficient insurance.

The firm suspended is Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, involved in last month's derailment and explosion, which killed 47 people and touched off a fire that lasted nearly two days.

The Canadian Transportation Agency said in a statement it has revoked the company's operating permit because it failed to demonstrate that its third party liability insurance would cover any damages in the event of another accident.

Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway sought bankruptcy protection in Canada and the United States this month as a result of a July 6 accident in the Quebec town of Lac-Mégantic, saying its cleanup obligations exceeded the value of its assets and insurance.

The Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway train, carrying crude oil from the Bakken shale fields of North Dakota, was parked overnight at a nearby town when it slipped away, derailed and exploded in the center of Lac-Mégantic.

The railway's chairman has said the disaster appeared to have been caused by an engineer's failure to set hand brakes on the train properly.

The town has sought millions of dollars from the company to pay for the cleanup and decontamination of the area devastated by the blaze that lasted almost two days and killed 47 people.

The Canadian Transportation Agency noted said the tragedy "has raised important questions regarding the adequacy of third party liability insurance coverage to deal with catastrophic events, especially for smaller railways."



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## Health & Living

### New H7N9 bird flu death confirmed in China: hospital

BEIJING (AFP) - A Chinese woman infected with the deadly H7N9 bird flu virus died of multiple organ failure, a Beijing hospital said, bringing the total fatalities from the disease to 45.

The 61-year-old tested positive for the virus on July 20 after she fell ill in Hebei province in northern China.

She was taken to Beijing's Chaoyang Hospital for treatment and died on Sunday, the hospital said in a statement.

A total of 134 cases have now been confirmed on the Chinese mainland, including one in Guangdong, the first in the southern province, which was reported on Saturday.

State news agency Xinhua said then that 44 people had died of the disease.

The virus was first reported in late March, with most cases confined to eastern China, and only one reported outside the mainland, in Taiwan.

Scientists reported last week the first likely case of direct person-to-person transmission of the H7N9.

Cases of H7N9 have dropped significantly in recent months.

## More siblings mean less chance of divorce: study

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - The more siblings you have, the less likely you are to get divorced when you grow up, suggests a study presented Tuesday at a major convention of American sociologists.

Doug Downey of Ohio State University said that, in terms of divorce, having no siblings or just one or two doesn't make much of a practical difference.

"But when you compare children from large families to those with only one child, there is a meaningful gap in the probability of divorce," he said.

Using data from the Gen-



eral Social Survey, Downey and his fellow researchers calculated that the likelihood of divorce in adulthood drops two percent with each additional brother or sister a person has.

"The real story appears to be how family dynamics change incrementally with the addition of each sibling," said Donna Bobbitt-Zeher, a co-author of the study.

"Having more siblings

means more experience dealing with others -- and that seems to provide additional help in dealing with a marriage relationship as an adult."

The General Social Survey, a trove of raw sociological data, comprises interviews with 57,000 adults across the United States by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago.

Downey and Bobbitt-Zeher presented their findings at the 108th annual meeting of the American Sociological Association that concludes Tuesday in New York.

## Study links heavy teen drinking to dementia

STOCKHOLM (AFP) - Heavy drinking and drug use in teenage years may boost your chances of developing dementia before the age of 65, Swedish researchers said Tuesday.

Alcohol abuse emerged as the strongest of nine risk factors that could be traced as far back as adolescence, according to a study of 488,484 Swedish men conscripted for military service between September 1969 and December 1979 at an average age of 18.

In the 37 years following their conscription, 487 of the men were diagnosed with young-onset dementia (YOD) at a median age of 54 years.

Sixty-eight percent of the YOD cases identified could be attributed to one or more of the nine factors.



"One case of alcohol poisoning increased the risk by about five-fold," geriatrics professor Peter Nordstrom of Sweden's Umeaa University told Swedish Radio of the study he led, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Other risk factors the team identified included a stroke,

drug use, depression, having a father with dementia, a short stature, and high blood pressure.

Young-onset dementia is rare -- about four percent of all cases according to the Alzheimer's Association. In some instances it is caused by a gene mutation, though the exact causes of dementia are

not known.

Researchers are working hard to find ways to diagnose and treat dementia in the early stages -- even before the onset of symptoms.

"The identification of other risk factors could improve the understanding" of how dementia develops, the study said.

Nordstrom could not say how many of the 487 patients were carriers of a gene mutation that causes YOD, but he told AFP he estimated "very few".

The findings suggested a healthy lifestyle could lower YOD risk, he added.

Alzheimer's Disease International projects the number of people with dementia will rise from 35.6 million in 2010 to 65.7 million by 2030 and 115.4 million by 2050.

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## Sci-Tech

### Colombia Struck by Magnitude 6.7 Earthquake

BOGOTA (AFP) - A 6.5 magnitude earthquake rattled northwestern Colombia Tuesday but there were no reports of casualties or damage, authorities said.

The Seismological Network of Colombia said the quake struck at 10:43 am (1543 GMT) in the Pacific Ocean, 99 kilometers (60 miles) from the

town of Nuqui in the department of Antioquia.

Colombian authorities ruled out the threat of a tsunami.

The Colombian report said it was felt especially strongly in the city of Quibdo, the capital of the department of Choco, where people ran out into the streets.

It was also felt in the depart-

ments of Quindio and Tolima.

Colombian seismologists said the quake, which was at a depth of less than 30 kilometers (18 miles), had a reading of 6.5 on the Moment magnitude scale.

The US Geological Survey, reporting on the same event, measured the quake at 6.7 on the same scale.



MANILA (AFP) - Philippine rescuers searched isolated towns devastated by deadly Typhoon Utor on Tuesday as barefoot children stood among ruined homes, but early preparations appeared to have avoided mass casualties. The government said four people had been confirmed killed and 11 were missing after Utor, the strongest storm this year, swept across the north of the country on Monday. Residents reported no major casualties, according to local military spokesman Major Ernesto Garcia, adding troops were already clearing roads and distributing relief.

### Scientists grow human heart tissue

PARIS (AFP) - Scientists said Tuesday they had used stem cells to grow human heart tissue that contracted spontaneously in a petri dish -- marking progress in the quest to manufacture transplant organs.

iPS cells are mature human cells "reprogrammed" into a versatile, primitive state from which they can be prompted to develop into any kind of cell of the body.

The primitive heart cells created in this way were attached to a mouse heart "scaffold" from which the researchers had removed all mouse heart cells, they wrote in the journal Nature Communications.

The scaffold is a network of non-living tissue composed of

proteins and carbohydrates to which cells adhere and grow on.

Placed on the 3D scaffold, the precursor cells grew and developed into heart muscle, and after 20 days of blood supply the reconstructed mouse organ "began contracting again at the rate of 40 to 50 beats per minute," said a University of Pittsburgh statement.

According to the World Health Organisation, an estimated 17 million people die of cardiovascular ailments every year, most of them from heart disease.

More than half of patients with heart disease do not benefit from drugs.

### Norway bars Apple from taking aerial photos of Oslo

OSLO (AFP) - Norway's intelligence agency has blocked US company Apple from flying over Oslo to take 3D aerial photos for its map application, citing national security, officials said Tuesday.

Norway's neighbours Sweden and Denmark have meanwhile granted Apple permission to take aerial photos.

NSM, tasked with protecting Norway from espionage, sabotage or acts of terrorism, refused to comment on the number or nature of restricted zones in Oslo.

Photos of these zones provided by Norwegian suppliers are of a lower resolution or blurred.

According to the daily newspaper Aftenposten, the photo ban prompted Oslo's mayor -- approached by the US embassy in Norway -- to contact the government on Apple's behalf but to no avail.

Apple was heavily criticised for errors in the first map application it developed in-house, and has since come up with its Flyover function that enables users to fly over major cities interactively.



'Testicle-munching' Amazon fish found off Denmark: COPENHAGEN (AFP) - A Danish fisherman made an unusual find in his nets recently when he discovered a pacu, a sharp-toothed cousin of the South American piranha with a reported penchant for testicles. However he said that the pacu is not a meat-eater and normally does not attack people. The rare find has spread across international media, who have jumped on the fish's reputation as a "ball-cutter" for its reported attacks on men.

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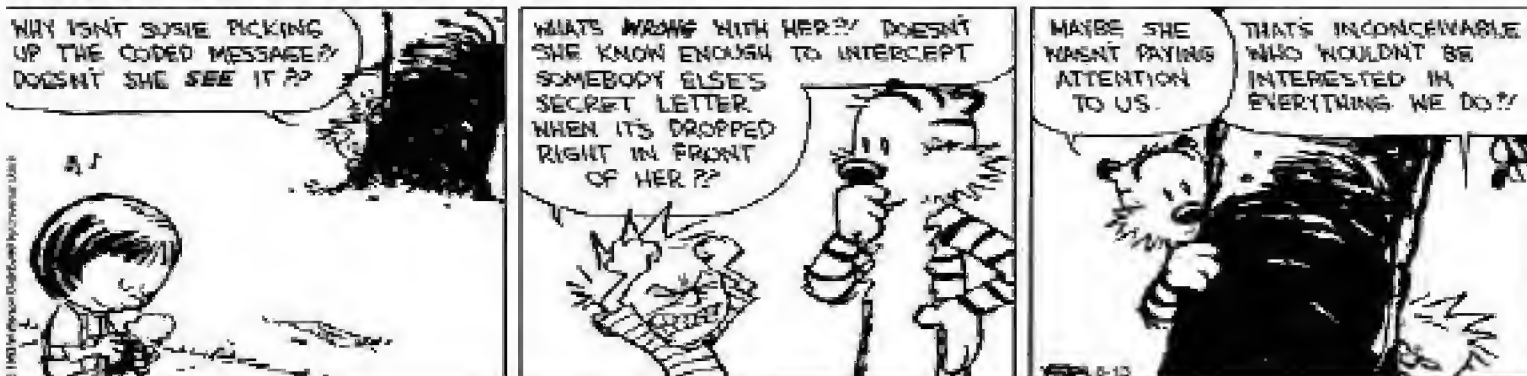
## PICKLES



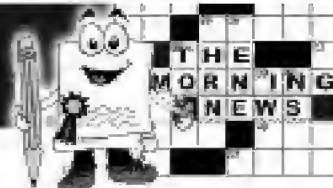
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## GALVIN and HOBBS



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## ACROSS

1. Whimper
5. Sully
9. Hooting bird
12. So-so
13. Falafel's bread
14. Entertainer Zadora
15. They hang onto ships
17. GI entertain-ment center
18. 6/6/44 (hyph.)
19. Lets up
21. Scoff
24. Hosp. workers
25. Candle ingredient

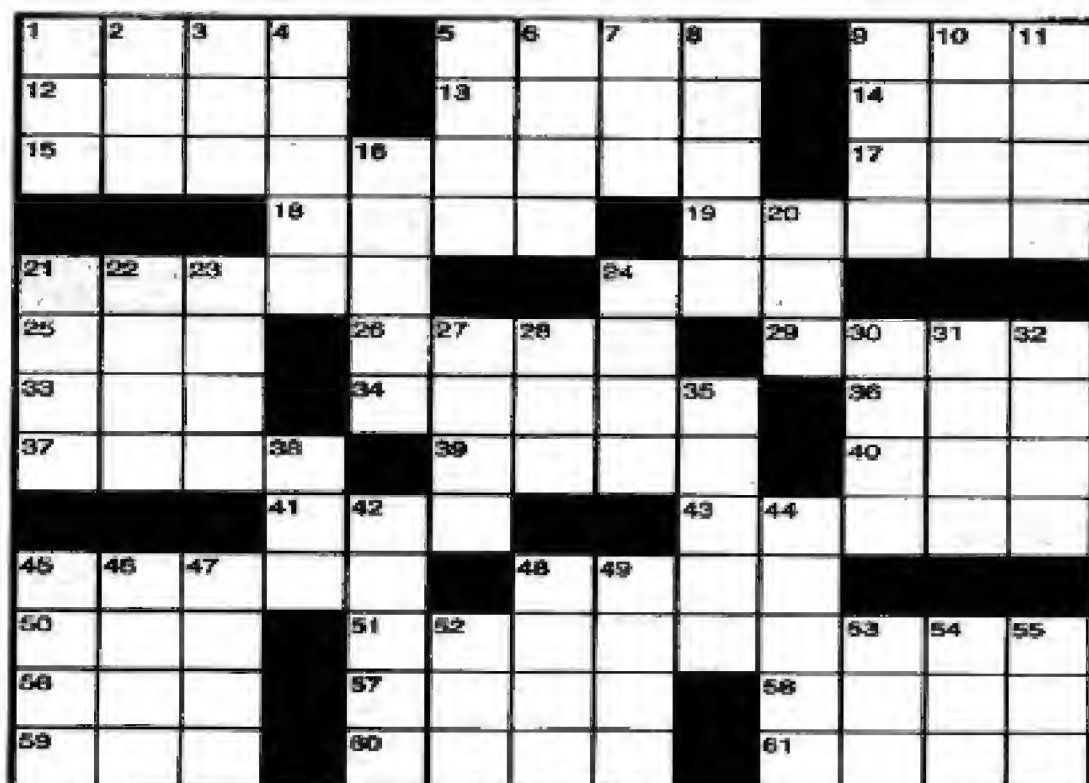
26. Eight, to Eduardo
29. Aid a hood
33. \_\_\_ standstill (2 wds.)
34. Byron and Browning, e.g.
36. \_\_\_ de France
37. Critical disaster
39. \_\_\_ school
40. Pounds (abbr.)
41. Extremely unfriendly
43. Fitzgerald and Logan
45. Don't disturb (2 wds.)
48. Actress Patricia
50. "Are you a man \_\_\_ mouse?" (2 wds.)

51. Certain stockbroker (2 wds.)
56. Scand. country
57. Constantly
58. Parcel (out)
59. Mental telepathy (abbr.)
60. Romantic outing
61. First four letters

## DOWN

1. Comic Newhart
2. Alias initials
3. The Trojan \_\_\_
4. Paul of "Hollywood Squares"
5. Animal rights org.

6. Greasy
7. Adherent (suffix)
8. Intense beam
9. Musical composition
10. Sensible
11. Asian country
16. \_\_\_ in the bucket (2 wds.)
20. Light \_\_\_ feather (2 wds.)
21. Clean the deck
22. Intl. pact
23. Quiz
24. Love foolishly
27. Plagiarize
28. That gal
30. Potential law
31. Exile island
32. Dick Tracy's wife
35. Lance
38. Lobster eater's wear
42. Granted
44. Andes creature
45. Forlorn
46. Greek love god
47. Infield cover, for short
48. Russian rejection
49. To be (Fr.)
52. Hollywood's Gardner
53. Daughter of high society
54. List abbr.
55. Primary color



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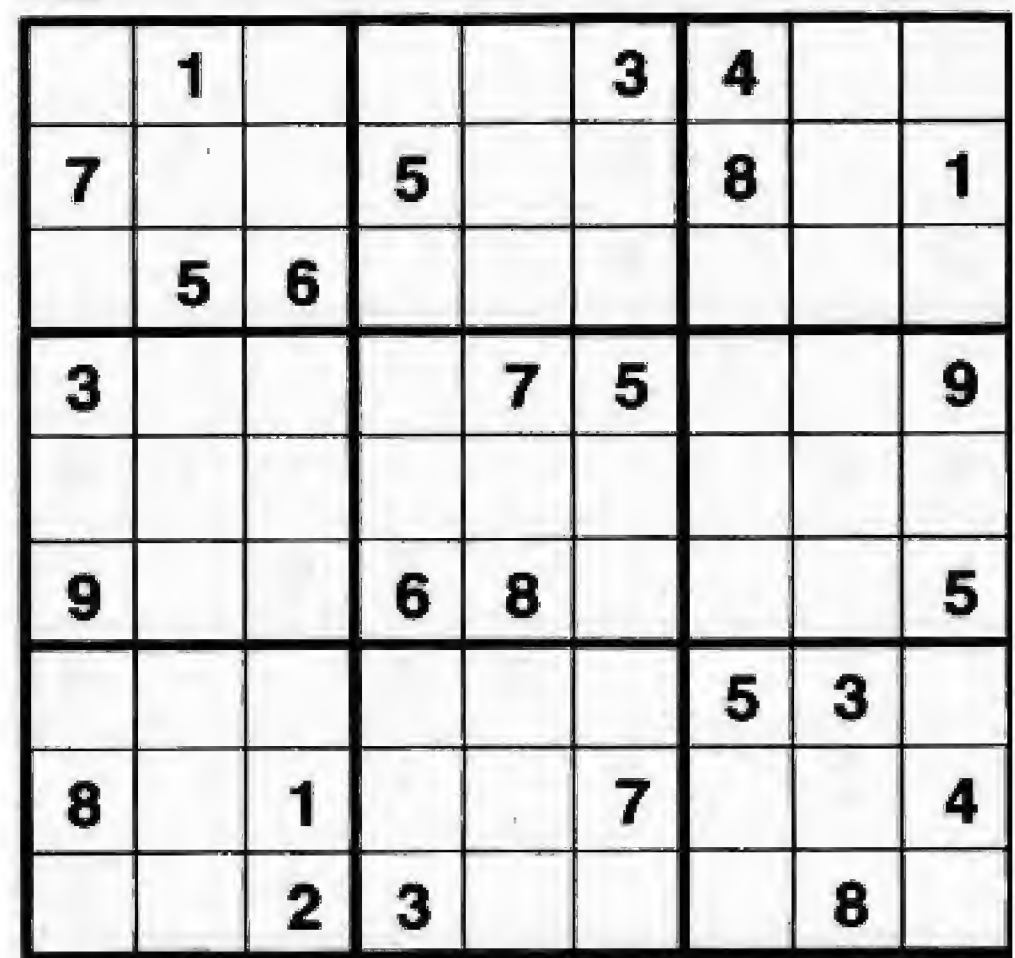
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# Sudoku



SOLUTION

2	8	1	6	9	3	2	7	5
7	6	9	2	5	2	1	8	9
2	5	3	8	1	7	6	2	9
5	1	6	7	8	9	2	2	6
8	7	2	2	6	8	9	9	1
6	9	2	5	2	1	7	8	6
8	2	6	1	2	8	9	5	7
1	2	8	9	7	6	8	6	2
9	5	7	6	2	9	1	2	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.





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## Oil rises on Libya strikes, expected US supply drop

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - Oil prices rose Tuesday following fresh oil supply disruptions in Libya and in anticipation of a bullish US oil inventory report.

US benchmark West Texas Intermediate for September delivery advanced 72 cents to \$106.83 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

European benchmark Brent oil for September delivery gained 85 cents to \$109.82 a barrel.

Commerzbank analyst Carsten Fritsch cited strikes yesterday at Libya's two largest oil export terminals in Es Sider and Ras Lanuf that shut down the facilities.

"The supply outages in Libya are lending buoyancy," Fritsch said.

Libyan oil exports month plunged by more than 70 percent at the end of July after protesters, including policemen and border guards, forced terminals to shut over demands for back pay.

Production and exports appeared to be resuming days later, but the strikes returned this week to tie up the terminals.

Market watchers meanwhile expect Wednesday's weekly US oil inventory report to show a decline of 1.5 million barrels, suggesting firmer demand.

"There's an expectation of a draw tomorrow," said Gene McGillian, broker and analyst at Tradition Energy.

He said the Wednesday report will likely be a catalyst for the oil market.

"The market is kind of meandering between \$103 and \$108 trying to find a direction," McGillian said.

## EU claims back 180 mn euros in farm aid

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Half of EU member states will have to pay back millions in farm aid, including Britain and Poland, because they did not follow the rules, the European Commission said on Tuesday.

The Commission, the European Union's executive arm, named 14 countries which owed in total about 180 million euros (\$235 million) for various infringements, chiefly that of ensuring aid payments are tied to farmers' actual land.

Britain will have to repay about 40.4 million euros over this land mapping requirement and another 18.6 million euros for shortcomings in allocating entitlements, it said.

Poland owes 39.2 million euros and Denmark 11.5 million euros, it added.

The Commission said it has to ensure that the 28 member states make correct use of funds provided under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the EU farm support system which accounts for around a third of all the bloc's spending.

## FINANCE

## Dutch Cabinet to cut spending by up to 8 billion Euro to boost investments, sources tell FD

-- The Dutch cabinet may be planning to cut spending by an extra €2bn in order to free up more money for investment in industry, the Financieele Dagblad reported on Tuesday.

Sources in The Hague have told the paper the cabinet hopes to generate an extra €2bn to invest in the economy, on top of the €6bn already in the pipeline.

Before the summer, ministers stated they were planning to make cuts totaling €6bn, in

line with demands by Brussels. The cuts are necessary to ensure the Dutch budget deficit is below the Eurozone limit of 3% next year.

### Forecasts

The government's macro-economic forecasting agency CPB is due to publish its latest estimates for 2014 today. The FD says ministers and senior officials will meet this week to start talks on potential spending cuts. The measures will be published on budget day,

which takes place on the third Tuesday in September.

A number of plans have already been leaked. These include a pay freeze for public sector workers, excluding the healthcare sector, a reduction in local authority grants and a tax band freeze, which means people will qualify for the highest tax band more quickly.

Measures to boost efficiency in the healthcare sector are slated to contribute further savings.

## 'Single mothers pressured to name the fathers for child support claims'

-- Single mothers in several cities are being pressured by officials to reveal the name of their children's fathers, so they can be made to pay child sup-

port, the Volkskrant reported.

The report also relates that experiments trying to trace unnamed fathers are also under way in Zwolle and Maastricht. Last year, 250 women in Rotterdam named the fathers of their children after being asked by officials.

Councils hope to save money by making fathers pay towards the upkeep of their children. "But it is most of all about getting fathers to take responsibility for their children," a Rotterdam council spokesman told the paper.

### Birth certificate

By law, biological fathers are legally required to support their children, even if they are not named on the birth certificate. Councils base their finan-

cial claims on the word of the mother and have gone to court to force fathers to pay.

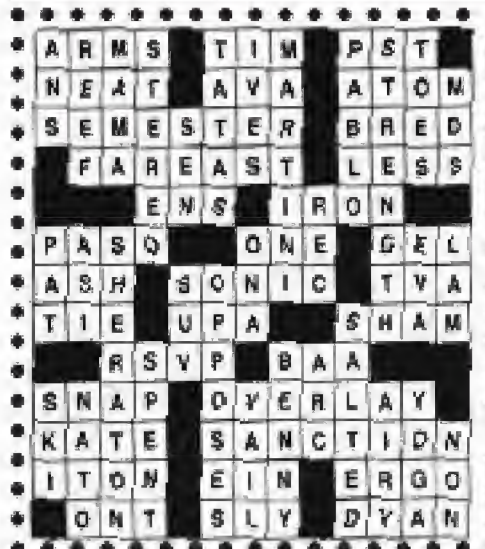
One man in Rotterdam, named by the paper as Eric van Deurzen, says he has been ordered to pay €486 a month in child support for his ex-girlfriend's three children, even though she was a mother to two of them when they met and he is certain the third is not his.

Legal experts told the paper fatherhood needs to be legally established before payment can be requested. This did not happen in Van Deurzen's case, and the council pointed out that to the Volkskrant that this action of jurisprudence sets a precedent that it is no longer legally required.



ARLINGTON (AFP) - An American Airlines jet takes off behind US Airways jets at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport yesterday in Arlington, Virginia. The U.S. Justice Department, and attorneys general from six states, filed legal actions today attempting to prevent the planned merger of US Airways and American Airlines as a violation of antitrust law.

## YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer





## Oprah says incident no 'indictment' of Switzerland

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - US chat show queen Oprah Winfrey says an alleged racist incident she suffered at a luxury boutique in Switzerland does not warrant an apology from the country.

Winfrey, who claims she was the subject of racism when a shop assistant refused to show her an expensive handbag, told journalists Monday in Los Angeles that it wasn't "an indictment against the country."

"I'm really sorry that it got blown up. I purposefully did not mention the name of the store," she said at the red carpet premiere of "The Butler," in which she stars alongside Forest Whitaker.

"I'm sorry that I said it was Switzerland."

Winfrey, one of the richest women in the world, said she had been in Zurich for US singer Tina Turner's wedding in July and had spotted a swanky, \$33,000 crocodile handbag while out shopping.

"I'm in a store, a name-brand store. I'm by myself, ab-

solutely nobody else with me. And I say to the woman: 'I would like to see that bag on the shelf,'" Winfrey told fellow US talk show host Larry King on Internet channel ora.tv.

"And she says: 'No, that one's too expensive. I'll show you this one,'" Winfrey said.

After the media frenzy that followed, Swiss luxury retailer Trois Pommes said the incident was a misunderstanding and the Swiss tourist office formally apologized to Winfrey.

Pressed by journalists Monday, Winfrey said "no apologies necessary from the country of Switzerland. If somebody makes a mistake in the United States do we apologize in front of the whole country? No!"

Trudie Goetz, head of Trois Pommes, on Friday told AFP it was a misunderstanding and that the salesperson was being kind to offer cheaper options.

According to Forbes magazine, Winfrey is worth an estimated \$2.8 billion.

## Pope torn over who to support for Italy-Argentina friendly



VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Pope Francis joked with Italy and Argentina players on the eve of a friendly football match in Rome on Tuesday, saying he was torn over who to support.

"It's going to be difficult for me, it's lucky it's a friendly match! And let's make sure it is one," the Argentine pontiff said in a meeting with stars Lionel Messi and Mario Balotelli and their team mates.

The players, along with Italian coach Cesare Prandelli and Argentine coach Alejandro Sabella, met the 76-year-old at the Vatican before Wednesday's game at Rome's Stadio Olimpico.

Francis, a lifelong fan of Argentine club San Lorenzo, called on the teams to make

sure they used their popularity to give a good example to their fans.

"You, dear players, are very popular. People follow your example, off the pitch as well as on. You have a social responsibility," he said.

The players presented Francis with a personalised shirt from each team with his name on it, as well as a silver vase from the Argentinians and an olive tree from the Italians.

Italian goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon described it as "a day which will remain in our hearts for ever".

"We have the fortune to have a special pope, with him I believe there will be the possibility to put into effect words often spoken but never acted upon," he said.



## Rooftop rock villa faces demolition in China



BEIJING (AFP) - A bizarre villa built among what looks like piles of rocks and trees on top of a 26-storey Beijing apartment building faces demolition within 15 days, local authorities said.

An order seen by AFP Tuesday, issued by a branch of the Chinese capital's urban management bureau, was posted on the door of a top-floor apartment in the block.

It gave the owner of the structure -- which covers 800 square metres (8,608 sq feet) of rooftop -- to destroy it or give authorities an explanation within 15 days of Monday's date. Otherwise, a forced demolition will be carried out.

But such threats are not always followed through in China, where law enforcement is sometimes selective.

Access to the rooftop was blocked Tuesday by piles of plastic bags, cardboard boxes and other rubbish.

The debris has already proved an obstacle for the municipal personnel who would be charged with enforcing the order.

Local media said the rooftop house was built over a six-year period by Zhang Biqing, the founder of a national chain of acupuncture clinics and a former member of a district-level political advisory body.

At least two neighbours have moved out because of the construction work, while others complained of the noise and potential risk of the structure collapsing, reports said.

Houses standing on top of multi-storey buildings are not unknown in China, where a rising property market is making land more and more expensive.

A developer in central China built 25 luxury villas on top of a shopping mall, which became migrant workers' residences after authorities declared them illegal, media reported earlier this month.



## Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded get-



away, we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community

of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold

Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property, not the least is the future value of the investment. To further en-

hance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas, 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

## Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Grandma's classic Stew beef with Rice and Potato salad

An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Inocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine.

### The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. Varella's mom,

Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted

Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses for Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes, all quite yummy



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local.

They are open daily, from 11:00 am to 11:00pm,

Tel: 5860606 and email: [sau.s.arubancuisine@live.com](mailto:sau.s.arubancuisine@live.com), offering indoor and outdoor dining. Aside from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!



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## Golf: PGA Tour denies talk of European Tour buy-out

PONTE VEDRA BEACH (AFP) - PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem Tuesday denied the US circuit had made a bid to acquire golf's European Tour, but said US tour officials continue to pursue collaborative efforts with other tours.

Two British newspapers, The Daily Mail and the Daily Telegraph, reported the PGA Tour was in preliminary discussions to take over the Wentworth-based European Tour and that Finchem had already had discussions with his European Tour counterpart George O'Grady.

Finchem said talks among the various tours within the federation would continue "as we explore additional collaborative efforts for the presentation of our game".

The PGA Tour, which organises men's pro-golf in the United States and North America, has already purchased the flagging Canadian Tour and renamed it the PGA Tour of Canada.

It also has a strong foothold in Latin America and Asia,

where the European Tour first moved successfully in the late 1990s, with a yearly \$5 million event in Malaysia.

Just recently the PGA Tour appointed an experienced executive to a newly created role to help the Tour "increase its efforts in China".

The PGA European Tour was founded in 1972 and organises men's pro-golf tours in Europe but is under increasing pressure to find European-based sponsors given the current economic climate.

In Spain, for example, where there were seven tournaments on the 2011 Race to Dubai schedule -- the former European Tour money list -- there is only one this season.

Greater prize money is also on offer in the United States, attracting top players from Europe. Of the 40 or so events this season, only three carry a prize purse of less than \$5 million.

In Europe, however, there are 44 events but the prize purse is two million euros (\$2.7 million) or less in exactly half.

## 279 Indian athletes fail dope tests in two years

NEW DELHI (AFP) - Some 279 Indian sports people have tested positive for banned substances in the last two years, the sports minister said, adding weightlifters topped the list of drug cheats.

The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) had conducted 9,898 tests over the last three years, Jitendra Singh told parliament, while naming all of the offenders in a written statement.

The national- and international-level athletes tested by the authorities are not well known.

The Indian government has a zero tolerance policy towards drugs in sports and several workshops and educational programmes have been conducted to create greater awareness about the issue, he said.

The most recent high-profile cases of doping in Indian sports involved six athletes, including Ashwini Akkunji, who won gold medals in the 400m hurdles and the 4x400m relay at the 2010 Asian Games.

Akkunji, along with team mates Mandeep Kaur, Sini Jose, Jauna Murmu, Tiana Mary and Priyanka Panwar, tested positive for banned steroids such as stanozolol and methandienone in June, 2011.

NADA suspended the athletes for a year after the women blamed contaminated food supplements supplied by their former Ukrainian coach Yuri Ogrodnik for the positive results.

The Swiss-based Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) increased the ban to two years in July 2012, upholding an appeal by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) for stricter punishment.



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## SPORTS

## Tennis: Murray says US Open defence a new challenge

CINCINNATI (AFP) - Andy Murray admitted Monday he doesn't know how he'll perform in his US Open title defence, but he hopes a solid showing in Cincinnati this week will help him prepare.

The world number two from Scotland, who ended Britain's 77-year wait for a Wimbledon men's champion last month, said that despite winning two Grand Slams he faces a new challenge when defending the American title.

The US Open begins on August 26. Murray meanwhile has another practice day in Cincinnati as he waits to face Mikhail Youzhny or Ernests Gulbis -- the Latvian who beat him last week in the second round of the Montreal Masters.

In first-round matches of the combined WTA and ATP Masters tournament in Cincinnati on Monday, German Philipp Kohlschreiber defeated former finalist Mardy Fish 7-5, 6-2 to set up a Tuesday night second-round match with five-time champion Roger Federer.

Swiss great Federer, who will be playing on hardcourts for the first time since March, said he is over the back injury which bothered him on clay last month and is ready to bid for another Cincinnati crown.

The omens are good, at least

-- Federer has a 7-0 record over his German friend Kohlschreiber.

Spanish 13th seed Nicolas Almagro fell in a Masters first round for the second week in succession, going down to Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov 7-6 (7/3), 6-4. Dimitrov fired 19 aces.

Czech Radek Stepanek knocked out Italian 14th seed Fabio Fognini 6-2, 6-4 while Serb Janko Tipsarevic sent American Sam Querrey packing 6-7 (5/7), 6-3, 6-4.

Brian Baker, who retired at the Australian Open with a serious knee injury and has been in rehab ever since, opened with a 7-5, 6-3 defeat of Denis Istomin, four days after the Uzbek took a set off world number one Novak Djokovic in Montreal.

Argentina's Juan Monaco kept Austrian Jurgen Melzer winless since late June at Wimbledon with a 6-3, 6-2 victory, while Spain's Marcel Granollers beat Lukas Rosol 5-7, 6-4, 6-0. Jeremy Chardy won an all-French battle over Adrian Panarino 6-4, 6-3.

In the women's draw, ninth seed Angelique Kerber, beaten in her opening match last week in Toronto, opened with a 6-7 (6/8), 6-0, 6-1 win over Italian Karin Knapp.



NEW YORK (AFP) - Injured Derek Jeter #2 of the New York Yankees has a laugh in the batting cage during practice before a game against the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim at Yankee Stadium on Tuesday in the Bronx borough of New York City.

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## Baseball: Darvish fans 15 in one-hit gem

HOUSTON (AFP) - Yu Darvish flirted with a no-hitter on Monday, notching a career-high 15 strikeouts and surrendering one hit -- a home run -- in the Texas Rangers' 2-1 victory over Houston.

The Rangers' Japanese pitching ace retired the first 17 batters he faced before surrendering a walk in the sixth inning.

He didn't allow a hit until Carlos Corporan smacked a homer to right with one out in the eighth.

"A win's a win," Darvish said. "I'm just glad I was a big part of this win."

It wasn't the first time Darvish has come close to a no-hitter.



He was one out shy of a rare perfect game against the Astros on April 2, when he retired 26 batters before surrendering a ninth-inning single to Houston's Marwin Gonzalez.

On Monday, Darvish had his bid for perfection end with two out in the sixth when he walked Jonathan Villar.

Rangers catcher AJ Pierzynski was ejected from the game

for arguing balls and strikes with plate umpire Ron Kulpa during Villar's at-bat.

With Geovany Soto as his catcher, Darvish kept the Astros without a hit until Corporan lined a homer into the right-field seats.

Rangers outfielder Alex Rios chased the ball to the warning track only to see it sail into the stands.

Darvish has now won three straight starts. He took his strikeouts for the season to a major league leading 207 in 23 starts, matching Nolan Ryan's club record for fewest starts needed to notch 200 strikeouts in a season.

Darvish improved on his major league career record of 14 strikeouts in a game, which he had achieved four times this season.

Reliever Joe Nathan picked up his 35th save of the season with a perfect ninth.



-- Manny Ramirez was released from his minor league contract Tuesday by the Texas Rangers, perhaps the last stop in a distinguished yet tarnished career. Ramirez, 41, was batting .259 at triple-A Round Rock, with three home runs in 103 games. He had an on-base percentage of .328 and a slugging percentage of .370. The Rangers acquired outfielder Alex Rios last week, ending any faint hope for Ramirez that he might be needed to help the Texas offense following the suspension of outfielder Nelson Cruz. Ramirez last played in the major leagues on April 6, 2011, for the Tampa Bay Rays. He abruptly retired rather than serve a 100-game suspension for a second violation of baseball's drug policy. The Oakland A's signed him to a minor league contract last season, just as the Rangers did this season, without promoting him to the major leagues.

## MLB Standings

### American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
BOSTON	71	49	.592	—
TAMPA	66	50	.569	3.0
BALTIMORE	65	53	.551	5.0
YANKEES	60	57	.513	9.5
TORONTO	54	64	.458	16.0

Central	W	L	Pct	GB
DETROIT	69	48	.590	—
KANSAS	62	54	.534	6.5
CLEVELAND	63	56	.529	7.0
MINNESOTA	53	63	.457	15.5
CHICAGO	45	72	.385	24.0

West	W	L	Pct	GB
TEXAS	69	50	.580	—
OAKLAND	67	50	.573	1.0
SEATTLE	54	63	.462	14.0
LA ANGELES	53	64	.453	15.0
HOUSTON	37	80	.316	31.0

### National League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
ATLANTA	72	47	.605	—
WASHINGTON	57	60	.487	14.0
NY METS	54	62	.466	16.5
PHILADELPHIA	53	65	.449	18.5
MIAMI	44	73	.376	27.0

Central	W	L	Pct	GB
PITTSBURGH	70	47	.598	—
ST. LOUIS	67	50	.573	3.0
CINCINNATI	66	52	.559	4.5
CHICAGO	55	66	.441	18.5
MILWAUKEE	51	67	.432	19.5

West	W	L	Pct	GB
DODGERS	68	50	.573	—
ARIZONA	60	57	.513	7.5
COLORADO	56	64	.467	13.0
SAN DIEGO	53	65	.449	15.0
SAN FRANCISCO	52	65	.444	15.5

x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ

## Athletics: Aman delivers first 800m medal for Ethiopia with gold



MOSCOW (AFP) - Mohammed Aman was outmuscled and jostled, but belied his diminutive size to produce a devastating sprint and claim a first-ever medal of any colour for Ethiopia in the world 800m by winning gold on Tuesday.

The two-lap event had sadly been shorn of the sublime talents of the injured David Rudisha, the Kenyan who broke the world record in winning the Olympic title last year.

But, in his absence, Aman, the 19-year-old world indoor champion who has twice got

the better of Rudisha, stepped into the void with some style.

The race was bunched for all but the final 200 metres, fancied American Duane Solomon bossing his way into the front as Frenchman Pierre-Ambroise Bosse almost side-swiped Aman coming out of the first corner run in lanes.

Solomon, who finished fourth in the London Olympic final in a time that in all previous finals would have seen him win a medal, faded to sixth behind Poland's Marcin Lewandowski and fifth-place Briton Andrew Osagie.

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# Pistorius trial date likely by Monday



JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - Paralympic sprinter Oscar Pistorius will likely know his trial date when he appears in court next Monday on murder charges for shooting dead his girlfriend, a family spokeswoman said.

The 26-year-old double amputee athlete known as the "Blade Runner" will return to court on the day slain model Reeva Steenkamp would have turned 30.

"We don't foresee long proceedings ... Chances are very high that a trial date will be set," family spokeswoman Anneliese Burgess told AFP.

Prosecutors said Tuesday they have finalised their case against the sprinter.

"We have finalised the in-

dictment, which contains a full list of the charges," said Bulelwa Makeke, the National Prosecuting Authority spokeswoman. "It will be served on Monday."

In a statement police confirmed they had also completed the murder investigation.

Pistorius is charged with fatally shooting Steenkamp in the early hours of February 14 through a locked bathroom door in his upmarket Pretoria home.

The star athlete claims he mistook her for an intruder, but prosecutors argue it was premeditated murder, which carries a sentence of life imprisonment.

Pistorius's lawyers want the

charge reduced to culpable homicide. His attorney Kenneth Oldwage told AFP he would meet with prosecutor Gerrie Nel to discuss the trial date before the appearance.

Steenkamp, a model and law graduate who had been dating Pistorius for just a few months, suffered gunshot wounds to her head, elbow and hip.

Police expect Monday's procedural hearing to be postponed after the indictment is served.

By then the prosecution and defence may also have finalised a start date for the trial, which is supposed to take place early next year.

The Johannesburg-born Paralympic champion who runs on prosthetic limbs that look like blades became an inspirational hero to millions as the first double amputee to compete against able-bodied competitors at the London Olympics last year.

His family said in June he had started training again for "mental and emotional equilibrium" after taking a break.

He is free pending trial on bail of one million rand (\$100,000, 78,000 euros).



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